

Amendment and Response

Applicant: Charley Lloyd
Serial No.: 09/781,583
Filed: February 12, 2001
Docket No.: 5520USA

Title: PORTABLE CONTAINER SEPARATELY CONTAINING TWO CONSUMABLE PRODUCTS, AND A DRY CONSUMABLE PRODUCT, ESPECIALLY RTE CEREAL, FOR USE THEREWITH

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wherein the liquid consumable product is contained separate from the dry consumable product, and wherein the container is adapted to facilitate on-the-go consumption of the liquid and dry consumable products.

2. The packaged consumable good article of claim 1, wherein the pieces each have a diameter in the range of 0.2-0.4 inch.
3. The packaged consumable good article of claim 1, wherein the pieces each have a diameter in the range of 0.2-0.25 inch.
4. The packaged consumable good article of claim 1, wherein the pieces each have a density in the range of 225-375 g/100 inch³.
5. The packaged consumable good article of claim 1, wherein the dry consumable product is a ready-to-eat cereal.
6. The packaged consumable good article of claim 5, wherein the ready-to-eat cereal is a puffed cereal.

7.(Amended) A portable, packaged consumable good article comprising:
a container including:
a first compartment,
a second compartment connected to the first compartment,
a first pour opening associated with the first compartment for facilitating restricted flow of a contained product therefrom,
a second pour opening associated with the second compartment for facilitating restricted flow of a contained product therefrom;
a liquid consumable product contained within the first compartment; and

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a dry consumable product contained within the second compartment, the dry consumable product comprised of a plurality of pieces each having a maximum outer dimension of less than 0.4 inch;

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wherein the liquid consumable product is contained separate from the dry consumable product, and wherein the container is adapted to facilitate on-the-go consumption of the liquid and dry consumable products.

8. The packaged consumable good article of claim 7, wherein each of the pieces has a maximum outer dimension in the range of 0.2-0.4 inch.

9. The packaged consumable good article of claim 7, wherein each of the plurality of pieces has a maximum outer dimension in the range of 0.2 - 0.25 inch.

10. The packaged consumable good article of claim 7, wherein each of the plurality of pieces is substantially spherical.

11. The packaged consumable good article of claim 7, wherein each at the plurality of pieces has a density of not less than 225 g/100 inch³.

12. The packaged consumable good article of claim 11, wherein each of the plurality of pieces has a density in the range of 225 – 375 g/100 inch³.

13. The packaged consumable good article of claim 1, wherein the plurality of pieces are puffed cereal pieces.

14.(Amended) A portable, packaged consumable good article comprising:

a container including:

a first compartment,

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a second compartment connected to the first compartment,

a first pour opening associated with the first compartment for facilitating restricted flow of a contained product therefrom,

a second pour opening associated with the second compartment for facilitating restricted flow of a contained product therefrom;

a liquid consumable product contained within the first compartment; and

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a dry consumable product contained within the second compartment, the dry consumable product comprised of a plurality of pieces each having a density of not less than 225 g/100 inch³;

wherein the liquid consumable product is contained separate from the dry consumable product, and wherein the container is adapted to facilitate on-the-go consumption of the liquid and dry consumable products.

15. The packaged consumable good article of claim 14, wherein the pieces each have a density in the range of 225-375 g/100 inch³.

16. The packaged consumable good article of claim 14, wherein the pieces each have a maximum outer dimension not greater than 0.4 inch.

17. The packaged consumable good article of claim 16, wherein the plurality of pieces each have a maximum outer dimension in the range of 0.2 - 0.4 inch.

18. The packaged consumable good article of claim 17, wherein each of the plurality of pieces has a maximum outer dimension in the range of 0.2 - 0.25 inch.

19. The packaged consumable good article of claim 14, wherein each of the pieces are substantially spherical.

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20. The packaged consumable good article of claim 14, wherein the plurality of pieces is puffed cereal.

21. A portable, packaged consumable good article comprising:
a container including:

 a first compartment,

 a second compartment connected to the first compartment,

 a first pour opening associated with the first compartment for facilitating restricted flow of a contained product therefrom;

 a second pour opening associated with the second compartment for facilitating restricted flow of a contained product therefrom;

 a liquid consumable product contained within the first compartment; and

 a dry consumable product contained within the second compartment, the dry consumable product comprised of a plurality of pieces that are substantially uniform in at least one characteristic selected from the group consisting of a shape, size and density, the selected characteristic configured to promote substantially uniform, gravity-induced flow through the second pour opening;

wherein the liquid consumable product is contained separate from the dry consumable product.

22. The packaged consumable good article of claim 21, wherein each of the plurality of pieces is substantially spherical, having a diameter in the range of 0.2 - 0.4 inch and a density in the range of 225 – 375 g/100 inch³.

23. The packaged consumable good article of claim 21, wherein each of the plurality of pieces is puffed cereal.

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24. The packaged consumable good article of claim 21, wherein the second pour opening defines a transverse cross-sectional area, and each of the plurality of pieces define a maximum cross-sectional area, and further wherein the second pour opening transverse cross-sectional area is at least 2.5 times greater than the maximum cross-sectional area of each of the plurality of pieces.

25.(Cancelled)

26.(Cancelled)

27.(Cancelled)

28.(Cancelled)

29.(Cancelled)

30.(Cancelled)

31.(Cancelled)

32. A method of manufacturing a packaged consumable product article comprising:
providing a container including a first compartment, a second compartment connected to
the first compartment, a first pour opening fluidly connected to the first
compartment for facilitating restricted product flow therefrom, and a second pour
opening fluidly connected to the second compartment for facilitating restricted
product flow therefrom;
dispensing a volume of liquid consumable product into the first compartment;

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providing a dry consumable product comprised of a plurality of pieces each having a maximum outer dimension of not more than 0.4 inch; and dispensing a quantity of the pieces into the second compartment; wherein the container separately contains the liquid and dry consumable products.

33. The method of claim 32, wherein each of the pieces has a maximum outer dimension in the range of 0.2-0.4 inch.

34. The method of claim 33, wherein each of the pieces has a maximum outer dimension in the range of 0.2 - 0.25 inch.

35. The method of claim 32, wherein each of the pieces has a density in the range of 225 - 375 g/100 inch³.

36. The method of claim 32, wherein the plurality of pieces are substantially uniform.

37. The method of claim 32, wherein each of the pieces is substantially spherical.

38. The method of claim 32, wherein the dry consumable product is ready-to-eat cereal and the liquid consumable product is milk.

39.(Amended) A method of manufacturing a packaged consumable product article comprising:
providing a container including a first compartment, a second compartment connectable to the first compartment, a first pour opening fluidly connectable to the first compartment for facilitating restricted product flow therefrom, and a second pour opening fluidly connectable to the second compartment for facilitating restricted product flow therefrom, the container being adapted to facilitate on-the-go consumption of product from the first and second compartments;

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dispensing a volume of liquid consumable product into the first compartment;
providing a dry consumable product comprised of a plurality of pieces each having a
density of not less than 225 g/100 inch³; and
dispensing a quantity of the pieces into the second compartment;
wherein the container separately contains the liquid and dry consumable products.

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40. The method of claim 39, wherein providing a dry consumable product includes forming each of the pieces to have a density in the range of 225-0375 g/100 inch³.

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41.(Amended) The method of claim 39, wherein providing a dry consumable product includes forming the pieces to have a maximum outer dimension in the range of 0.2 - 0.4 inch.

42. The method of claim 41, wherein each of the pieces has a maximum outer dimension in the range of 0.2 - 0.25 inch.

43. The method of claim 39, wherein each of the pieces is substantially spherical.

44. The method of claim 39, wherein the plurality of pieces are substantially uniform.

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45.(Amended) The method of claim 39, wherein the dry consumable product is ready-to-eat cereal and the liquid consumable product is milk.

Please add newly presented claims 46 – 52 as follows:

--46.(Newly Presented) The packaged consumable good article of claim 21, wherein the plurality of pieces are substantially uniform in at least two characteristics selected from the group consisting of shape, size, and density.

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47.(Newly Presented) The packaged consumable good article of claim 21, wherein each of the plurality of pieces are substantially spherical, deviating no more than 10% in any one dimension from a true sphere.

48.(Newly Presented) The packaged consumable good article of claim 21, wherein an entirety of the dry consumable product consists of the plurality of pieces, the plurality of pieces being substantially uniform in shape, size, and density.

49.(Newly Presented) The method of claim 32, wherein providing a dry consumable product includes:

selecting a maximum outer dimension of the plurality of pieces based upon a desired, gravity-induced flow of the plurality of pieces through the second pour opening.

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50.(Newly Presented) The method of claim 49, wherein the selected maximum outer dimension is based upon an estimated cross-sectional area of the second pour opening.

51.(Newly Presented) The method of claim 32, wherein providing a dry consumable product includes:

forming the plurality of pieces based upon an ingredient formulation of an available dry consumable product consisting of a plurality of pieces each having an outer dimension greater than 0.4 inch.

52.(Newly Presented) The method of claim 51, wherein an ingredient formulation of the dry food product is the same as the ingredient formulation of the available dry food product.--
